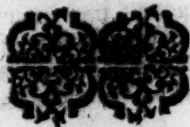


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ANSWER
TO THE
QUESTION

Why may not
The **ENGLISH**
ASSIST

The **SVVEDE**,
As well as the **DUTCH** do
The **DANE**.



London, Printed in the Year, 1658.

Denmark
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London, Printed in the Year, 1851.



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Why may not the ENGLISH
ASSIST the SWEDS, as well
as the DUTCH doe the DANE.

SIR,
YOU were pleased to ask me lately, *Why*
England might not as well Assist the King
of Sweden, as the United Netherland Pro-
vinces did send Succour to the King of Denmark?

Believing, that it will be acceptable to your self, and
other Noble Gentlemen, and all impartiall Movers of the
English Nation, that the same Question be Answered:
I do first offer it to your Consideration; Whether it be
not requisite to examine the divers State and Condition of
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the Parties, who are Distressed and stand in need of Succour? and who do suffer Wrong, and of those, who are the Wrong doers? For Nature, Humanity, Reason, and the Lawes of all Nations, do clearly dictate, that Affliction is not to be added to the Afflicted; And that no Succour ought to be given to the Oppressour, against the Oppressed. Upon which ground, I intreat you Secondly, to Consider, There being, besides the *Swedish* Navy, no Ships of Warre in the *Sound*, or *Baltick* Sea, but some of *Denmark*, and the *United Provinces*: Whether the *English* Succour in those Parts, could be employed, or made use of with Honour, and a good Conscience, against *Denmark*, or against the said *United Provinces*?

I. Considering that the whole Kingdome of *Denmark* was surprized and invaded, and almost totally subdued under the power of the King of *Sweden*, except onely the City of *Copenhagen*, which was not onely closely besieged by a Royal *Swedish* Army by Land, but also by a potent Navy of that King by Sea, and daily assaulted, and no means of fire, and other destructive instruments, and engines omitted to force that City, and to oppress in the same, the King of *Denmark*, with his Royall Family, and the Councell of the Kingdome. Whereby it appears, that the said King of *Denmark* was in a sad and distressed condition, having surrendered upon the Treaty of *Raskild*, mediated by a publick Minister of *England*, betwixt the two Kings, in *February* last, 1657. A great part of the Kingdome of *Denmark*, together with all the strongest and most considerable Castles, and Places of *Warre*. And being in Person with his Queen, and Children so extremely oppressed, in the said City of *Copenhagen*, and with all sorts of violence by Sea and Land assaulted; having not so much as one Company of Souldiers in the Field, nor one Ship of Warre at Sea in all his Kingdome of *Denmark*. When on the other side, the King of *Sweden* had severall Armies round about the *Baltick* Sea, in *Livonia*, and *Curland* in *Prussia*, in *Pomerania*, in the Dukedome of *Brinn*, and in his Con-
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quered Provinces and strong Places in *Jutland*, *Skonau*, *Berkingen* and *Holland*, besides his Army in *Zeland* before the said City. The said King had also a numerous and strong Navy more considerable, then ever any King of *Sweden* had brought to Sea before: Where with he had made himselfe Master of the Sound, and all the other passages out of the Western Seas, to the East Countries, and exacted there Tolls of all Nations. So you see, that the King of *Sweden* was in a Conquering formidable condition, assailling and oppressing the King of *Denmark*, a Protestant Prince, In amity, and Alliance, with *England*: And that King, you perceive was in a broken, distressed and pittifull Estate. The first the invador and oppressor; The last, the surprized, invaded and oppressed, and almost past relief. So that it seems strange to those that understand the true State of those affaires, how it can enter into the thoughts of an honest man, to strengthen and succour the King of *Sweden*, against the King, or Kingdome of *Denmark*.

2. And to the end, that you may know the grounds, whereon the Lords the States Generall of the united Provinces have sent a fleet of ships, to assist the said King of *Denmark* in this his distressed Condition. It is known and notorious, that it is the interest of the said United Provinces (if not of all the Christian Princes) that the Kingdomes and Territories round about the *Baltick* Sea be preserved in Peace and tranquillity, (the Warres and differences, having alwaies been very prejudiciall to the Trade and Commerce, especially of the *Netherlanders* in the East Countries) and to maintain the respective Northern Kings, in their own Kingdomes, and Territories. Therefore they have first contracted, and established a defensive League and Alliance with *Sweden*, in the year 1640. To defend each others Dominions and Territories, as also the Freedome and liberty of Commerce, and Navigation in the said *Baltick* Sea. And have to the same end and purpose since, with the Communication and appro-

approbation of *Sweden*, made a defensive Alliance, with the King and Kingdome of *Denmark* in the year, 1649. Whereby both were obliged to Succour, and assist that confederate, who should be assaulted and invaded, or otherwise oppressed: Which Treaty hath likewise been Communicated to the Government of *England*. And since that the Queen Christian had resigned the Crown to the present most potent King *Charles Gustave*, the said Lords, the States Generall have used all possible Endeavours, to renew it with his High Renowned Majesty: And did assure themselves, that with the Concurrence and Co-operation, of his Late Most Serene Highnesse, the said Alliance should have been confirmed, and fully established. But to their great grieve, his Majesty was pleased to wave, or to delay it upon pretence, that some preliminary Declarations were to be first made, and assurances given. And in the mean time did on the ninth of *August* last past, *Stilo veteri*, invade with his Royall Army and Navy, the Isle of *Zealand*, and assaulted at the same time the Places and Dominions of the King of *Denmark* in *Holstein* under the Roman Empire. At which unhappy accident, the said Lords, the States Generall, were very much troubled; And being summoned by the King of *Denmark*, in performance of the said defensive Alliance, to succour him in his oppression and extremity: They were bound in honour and conscience, to accomplish and to keep honestly the said solemn Treaty. As by the Laws of all Nations, yea of the Heathen themselves, it is resolved without any controversie, that publick Treaties are to be kept, and Nationall engagements to be Religiously performed. And *Ambrose*, *Tullius Cicero*, and others have taught: *Qui non repellit injuriam a socio cum possit, tam est in vitio, quam ille qui facit*: That is, he that doth not repell, and hinder an injurie to be done to his friend, or associate, when it is in his power, is as much in the fault, as if he did commit it himself. *Plato* saith, that he is to be punished, who doth

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not interpose, when he seeth that wrong is done to another. And the wise King in the Proverbs teacheth as much.

And although the said Lords the States General, were obliged by all the Laws of God and men, and by the said special Treaty, to succour the said King of *Denmarke*, (as they must and would have done the King of *Sweden*, in case of like necessity) yet they did it not precipitately nor inconsiderately, by themselves alone, but did Communicate and Conferre about it with the Supreme Authority of *England*, or the publique Ministters of the same, desiring very instantly that they might know how the said Invasion was apprehended, on the behalf of *England*, and what was thought fit in *England*, should be done thereupon, by or on the behalf of the said United Provinces: And they did likewise Communicate sincerely, what Succours and Assistance they were preparing, and sending to his oppressed Majesty of *Denmarke*. And they not being dissuaded to send it, and conceiving that it was as much *Englands* Interest as their own, that the Kingdom of *Denmarke*, and the whole Dominion of the Baltick Sea, should not be subdued and brought under the Power of the King of *Sweden*, have sent a part of their Fleet to Convoy a supply of some two thousand Souldiers to *Copenhagen*. And their Admiral, finding that the *Swedes* did oppose and obstruct his passage, was forced to make it.

Which being the true state of the Case, it is hoped that no Christian will think that there is any the least Ground, Reason, Justice or Equity, to send any Succour to the King of *Sweden*, against *Denmarke*, or the United Provinces, or their Ships of Warre in the Sound or Baltick Sea. But that it will be thought fit to Co-operate by fair means, to re-establish a firm Peace and Tranquility betwixt the said two Kings, and the other States and Potentates in the said East Countries; and to preserve inviolably a true Amity, Union and Confederation, between *England*, and the United Provinces; and to secure a Free Trade

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